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* 2408 *Q.*—SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received any communication from the Chairman, Bar Council, Madras, regarding the conduct of the Commercial Tax Officer, South Malabar, in April 1955; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The matter is engaging the attention of the Government.

* 2409 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Chairman, Madras Bar Council, has sent a communication, dated 12th April 1955, to the Secretary, Revenue Department, concerning the conduct of the Commercial Tax Officer, South Malabar, Palghat, in demanding production of sanad by advocates for appearance before him; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The matter is being examined.

* 2410 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have received any memoranda, dated 24th May 1955, addressed to the Revenue Board by P. M. Krishnamurthy and others complaining that the Commercial Tax Officer, South Malabar, Palghat, refused appearance to their advocate on 20th May 1955 in sales-tax appeals, and if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : The memorandum, dated 24th May 1955, referred to in the question has not been received by the Government. A petition, dated 20th June 1955, has been received from Sri P. M. Krishnamurthy on the subject and the matter is engaging the attention of the Government.

* 2411 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has received a telegram from merchants in Palghat town, South Malabar, on 28th May 1955 alleging that the Commercial Tax Officer of Palghat refused to permit the advocate to appear for them in a sales-tax case appeal; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) & (*b*) The telegram, dated 28th May 1955, referred to in the question has not been received by the Government. A petition, dated 20th June 1955, on the subject has been received and the matter is being looked into.

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SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP: The conduct of Commercial Tax Officers has been severely commented upon even by the Taxation Enquiry Commission and this is a typical example where the Commercial Tax Officer concerned has been acting vindictively and oppressively. The Advocate-General who is the Chairman of the Bar Council has addressed the Revenue Secretary saying that it is not the custom even for the Supreme Court to ask an advocate to produce the sanad. May I know what the Government have done on the communication addressed by the Advocate-General in this respect which requires such a long consideration?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: I have not received the report from the Board of Revenue. The matter being important, I would like that to be examined in fuller detail. That is why I require some time. I have very meagre information on the point now.

SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI: The letter from the Chairman of the Bar Council was addressed on the 12th of April 1955. The merchants have put in an application to the Board of Revenue at least to transfer their cases to some other Commercial Tax Officer, but the Revenue Board has refused to do that. So, the cases are pending. They have been posted to the same Commercial Tax Officer which means that the officer who is already prejudiced against the merchants will not deal with their cases fairly. Will the Government look into all these matters and come to a decision immediately?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: I am not quite sure about the date. But I concede that a sufficiently long time has elapsed. I will certainly look into the matter as expeditiously as possible.

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM: The point is that a lawyer has been asked to produce a sanad to show that he is entitled to practise. I wish the Government to take it the other way about. Suppose an officer is asked by a layman to produce the order of his appointment or a Minister is asked to produce documents to show that he is a Minister. Then, it is a very serious matter. Such being the case, why has the matter been delayed with reference to a lawyer? If it be a case of a layman asking a public officer to produce the order of his appointment, the Government would have expedited the matter. Is it because it is a case of a lawyer that the Government are sleeping over it and are taking so much time over it?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: Along with that question, other questions have also been raised. So, probably they wanted to send a consolidated report. But now I see that this question may be separately dealt with expeditiously. I shall certainly take steps in the matter.

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SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP: The Government admit that it is an important question and they want time. I have no objection. Meanwhile very serious personal allegations have been made against that officer. Will the Government conduct an inquiry in the meantime so that when the question is finally settled, that also can be considered and no further time need be taken?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: I hope to have this thoroughly examined in the course of a few days.

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN: In view of the fact that there have been several allegations against this Commercial Tax Officer, before an enquiry is made, will the Government be pleased to transfer him from the place so that the inquiry may not be prejudiced?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: I have said that the whole question will be considered.

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY: The Hon. Minister was pleased to say that the whole matter was being examined. May I know whether during the period of examination this officer who has shown such scant courtesy to the members of the Bar will be kept under suspension or at least transferred from this place to another place?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: In the first place, I must examine the case made out. So, some time is required for that.

SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE: May I know whether various reports containing serious allegations against the officer published in the Malayalam papers in Malabar were brought to the notice of the Government by the concerned district officials? If not, will the Government call for a report from the officer responsible for submitting such reports to the Government?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: I have not yet learnt Malayalam. I proposed to learn it. But there are rumours about the proposals of the States Reorganization Commission. Therefore, I do not propose to study Malayalam.

DEPUTY SPEAKER: Next question.

SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE: On a point of order, Sir. My question is not about the Hon. Minister studying Malayalam or not studying Malayalam. My question is about the reports received from the district officials of Malabar about the serious allegations made in the public press there about the concerned officer. May I know whether the Government have received any such report from the district officials concerned? Or else, will the Government call for a report from the responsible district officials in Malabar? This is a question which requires to be answered.

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THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : The hon. Member referred to certain statements appearing in the Malayalam papers. That was why I gave such an answer. Without knowing Malayalam, how could I read the Malayalam paper? As regards the other question, a report has been called for and it is being scrutinized by the Revenue Board.

SRI K. UPPI : On a point of order, Sir. The Hon. Minister said that he did not know Malayalam and that he was not prepared to study Malayalam. Are we to take it that matters published in the public press in Malayalam will not be taken notice of by this Government? When we put questions regarding a statement made in the Malayalam language, we do not expect that each Member on the Treasury Bench should study Malayalam. He has got a big staff among whom there are members who know Malayalam. It is not fair on the part of the Hon. Minister to say that he does not recognize or understand Malayalam. What he has said amounts to saying that matters published in the Malayalam press will not be taken notice of by the Government. I rise to a point of order on this matter.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : I cannot compel the Hon. Minister to reply to a certain question in a particular way. The Hon. Minister has the right to reply any way he likes. His answer may be appropriate or may not be. I cannot give a ruling on the matter.

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM : With regard to the point of order raised by the hon. Member Sri Uppi Sahib, I want to raise certain points.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : It is not a point of order. What is the use of talking over it?

DEPUTY SPEAKER : I had already passed on to the next question. Since the hon. Member wanted to raise a point of order, I allowed him.

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM : I am raising a fresh point of order now, Sir. This thing happens very often. Various papers are being published in the State in various languages. Each printer or publisher is printing and publishing those papers under certain press regulations. One of the conditions is that one copy must be sent to the Government for scrutiny. Suppose a seditious or objectionable matter is there. The Government have to look into it and take proper action at proper time. That is the purpose for which a copy is being sent to the Government. If a criticism appears against an action of the Government, opportunity is given to the Government to rectify it.

It is one thing to say that Mr. Manickavelu Naicker, because 9-20 a.m.
he is a Tamilian, does not know Malayalam and therefore cannot read what is said in a Malayalam newspaper. But, as a Minister in the Cabinet and as a person representing Government, he should

not say that he will not be able to look into what is said in a Malayalam newspaper. It is the duty of the Government to find out and understand, after translation wherever necessary, what is said in the different newspapers published in different languages and take proper action at the appropriate time. That is the point of order I am raising.

DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members and the Chair cannot compel the Hon. Minister to answer a question in a particular way. That is what I wish to make clear. The hon. Member has put the question. It is open to the Hon. Minister to answer it in any way he likes. He can deny the statement made by the hon. Member, or he may say that he was not aware of a particular matter.

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM : That is not what I am referring to, Sir. Let the Hon. Minister answer the question in any way he likes. The Chair cannot compel the Minister and I agree on that point. Incidentally, the Hon. Minister made certain observations.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Yes, that is the answer that he has given.

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM : The Hon. Minister said that he will not be able to look into what is stated in a Malayalam paper. On this statement made by the Hon. Minister only I am raising my point of order, Sir.

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Sir, I rise on a point of personal explanation arising out of the points of order raised by the hon. Members. I am really sorry that the hon. Member Sri Uppi Sahib has raised this as a point of order. He is one of the oldest Members of this Assembly. Not only that. He has also been a Member of the Central Assembly. So, I am surprised at the point of order raised by him. What I said was that I have not read what was stated in the Malayalam newspapers. Of course, the Government translate important matters appearing in the papers in all languages. I have not come across any such translation though all important matters are translated usually. That shows that this was not important enough from the Government's point of view. But, certain Members attach great importance to this, as they do in the case of even small and trivial things. They attach importance to some matters from the point of view of their constituencies or their firkas. But, the Government may not attach the same importance. That is why I said that I have not come across any translation relating to this matter. What was said in a humorous way has, I am sorry, been taken very seriously by certain hon. Members. I do not know why the hon. Members want to have the deliberations of the House always in a serious manner. Sometimes, we must have some humour now and then. If some of them have not got sufficient capacity to appreciate such humour, then I feel sorry for them.

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SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Sir, I wish to say that the same humour repeated incessantly ceases to be humour and has to be taken seriously.

Duty hours in Raja Rajeswari and Kamatchi Bus Services.

* 2412 *Q.*—SRI M. KATTIMUTHU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation that Sri Raja Rajeswari Bus Service and Kamatchi Bus Service in Vridhachalam exceed the time-limit of duty in respect of their employees ; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Special Armed Police in Madras Harbour.

* 2413 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Special Armed Police sent to Madras Harbour on 5th and 6th April 1955 ; and

(*b*) why they were sent?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (*a*) Special Armed Police was not sent to Madras Harbour on 5th and 6th April 1955.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Wool carding and padding industries.

* 2414 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any scheme for starting of wool carding and padding industries in Coimbatore was ever considered by the Government ; and

(*b*) if so, why it did not materialize?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) The question does not arise.

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : நீலகிரி ஜில்லாவில் இது மாதிரி கம்பளங்கள் ஏராளமாக இருப்பதால் கோயமுத்தூரில் ஒரு பாக்டரி வைப்பதற்கு சர்க்கார் யோசிக்குமா ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : 'வுல் ப்ரொஸெஸிங் ஸெண்டர்' ஒன்று வட ஆற்காடு ஜில்லாவில் விண்ணமங்கலத்தில் ரூ. 11,30,000-ல் எஸ்டிமேட் போட்டு வேலை நடந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறது. வேறு 'பிரபோஸல்' ஒன்றுமில்லை.